

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. **(Original)**. A machine shoe for the support of objects, such as apparatuses and machines, with a movable metallic spindle secured to a base consisting of a bottom made of a polymer material, such as a rubber product, with a metallic upper part, characterized in that the attachment of the spindle in the base is concealed, and that the surface of the base is shaped as a part of a ball face.

2. **(Original)** A machine shoe for the support of objects, such as apparatuses and machines, according to claim 1, characterized in that at least two locking rings for the attachment of a spindle are integrated in the polymer part of the base.

3. **(Currently amended)** A machine shoe for the support of objects, such as apparatuses and machines, according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the locking rings integrated in the base are positioned in parallel and with the same center axis, so that the centre point between the centre holes of the locking rings coincides with the centre of the movement of a spindle which is held by the locking rings.

4. **(Currently amended)** A machine shoe for the support of objects, such as apparatuses and machines, according to one or more of claims 1–3 claim 1, characterized in that the ball face of the base has its centre at the centre point between the centre holes of the integrated locking rings.

5. **(Currently amended)** A machine shoe for the support of objects, such as apparatuses and machines, according to one or more of claims 1–4 claim 1, characterized in that the ball face part of the base is

defined by a solid angle with the centre at the centre point between the holes of the locking rings of preferably more than 2.5 steradians and less than 6.0 steradians and additionally preferably defined by a steradian value of between 4.0 and 5.0.

6. **(Currently amended)** A machine shoe for the support of objects, such as apparatuses and machines, according to ~~one or more of claims 1–5~~ claim 1, characterized in that the surface of the base from the ball face part changes its shape from a truncated cone with the smallest radius toward the ball face part and the largest radius in a direction opposite the one in which a spindle extends from the base.

7. **(Currently amended)** A machine shoe for the support of objects, such as apparatuses and machines, according to ~~one or more of claims 1–6~~ claim 1, characterized in that the base has one and just one opening which is arranged at the top of the ball shape, said opening being defined by polymer material, said opening being circular with a diameter which is smaller than the diameter of the spindle which is attached to the base by insertion through the opening, measured in a complementary section.

8. **(Currently amended)** A machine shoe for the support of objects, such as apparatuses and machines, according to ~~one or more of claims 1–7~~ claim 1, characterized in that the opening in the polymer material at the top of the ball face of the base from the entry hole toward the bottom face of the base on the first portion is cylindrical, and then the diameter increases over a portion, following which the diameter again diminishes over the next portion.

9, (Currently amended) A method for support of objects, such as apparatuses and machines, characterized in that one or more components as described in ~~one or more of claims 1-8~~ claim 1 are used for the support.